

Docket No: 08-0435
Bench Date: 2/11/09
Deadline: N/A

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: The Commission

FROM: John T. Riley, Administrative Law Judge

DATE: January 16, 2009

SUBJECT: Cook County, Illinois

Application for a certificate of local and interexchange authority to operate as a reseller and facilities-based carrier of telecommunications services in Cook County in the State of Illinois.

RECOMMENDATION: Enter an Order granting the Certificates pursuant to Sections 13-403, 13-404, and 13-405.

Cook County, Illinois ("Applicant"), a home rule county in Illinois, seeks authority pursuant to Section 13-403 of the Act to provide facilities-based interexchange telecommunications services in Illinois; pursuant to Section 13-404 to provide resold local and interexchange telecommunications services in Illinois; and pursuant to Section 13-405 of the Act to provide facilities-based local exchange telecommunications services in Illinois. Applicant demonstrated that it has the necessary technical, financial, and managerial resources to provide the requested telecommunications services in Illinois.

Staff and Applicant also executed a Stipulation of Undisputed Facts, wherein it was agreed that Cook County is an organized home rule unit of government, pursuant to the Illinois Counties Code; that on July 16, 2008, Cook County filed an application for the above-cited certificates; that on July 29, 2008 and October 3, 2008, Commission Staff promulgated and served upon Cook County its first and second set of data requests (QL-2.01 through QL 2.04); that on August 14, 2008 and October 2, 2008, Cook County provided responses to the second set of data requests; that the information contained in the responses is relevant and material to this proceeding and that data requests and responses should be admitted into evidence (admitted as Staff Exh. 2); that Cook County has agreed to comply with all Federal and State rules and regulations pertaining to telecommunications, including, but not limited to, laws regarding taxation, regardless of whether its operations are inside or outside of Cook County; and that Staff does not oppose granting the application.

Accordingly, I recommend that the Commission enter the attached Order granting Applicant the requested authority.

JTR:jt